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## NEWS ITEMS

Several of the theses presented by candidates for the Master of Arts degree at the June Commencement of the University of Texas will interest readers of *THE QUARTERLY*. Miss Abigail Curlee of Mannsville, Oklahoma, wrote a description of the operation of Peach Point plantation in Brazoria County, 1831-1863, using for her sources principally two plantation record books given to the University of Texas about a year ago by Mrs. James F. Perry of Freeport, Texas. Miss Johnnie Belle McDonald of Neches, Texas, wrote on the Soldiers of San Jacinto, a study designed to determine whether the soldiers were *bona fide* residents of Texas or adventurers who returned to the United States after the Texas revolution was over. The principle sources for the study are the manuscript records of the General Land Office. While information concerning some hundred and fifty of the soldiers could not be obtained, that obtainable for about seven hundred men indicates that they were settlers. Mrs. Willye Ward Watkins of Austin translated, with introduction and notes, Santa Anna's autobiography, the manuscript of which is in the Garcia Library of the University of Texas.

Two theses presented for the Master of Arts degree at the University of Texas in June illustrate the increasing value and importance of the Littlefield collection for Southern History. Mr. James K. Greer wrote "Louisiana and the South, 1848-1860," entirely from sources provided by the Littlefield Fund; and Mr. Rupert N. Richardson, writing in the department of government on "Constitutional Restrictions on the Legislature," used almost solely materials obtained by the same fund.

Sam H. Dixon has a series of papers in the *Houston Post* of May 14, 21 and 28, 1922. The first gives an account of General Sherman's visit to the Texan frontier in the spring of 1871, and of the reversal of the War Department's Indian policy; the second gives some account of R. M. Potter, author of "The Hymn of the Alamo"; in the last he recounts some personal reminiscences of Old Washington.

Dr. J. O. Dyer contributed to the *Galveston News* of May 7, 14 and 21, 1922, a series of papers dealing with the career of Jean

Lafitte during his occupancy of Galveston, 1818 to 1820. He has a paper in the *News* of May 28 on the superstitions and beliefs of the Comanches in Texas.

The *Galveston News* of March 8, 1922, contains a brief description of the Samuel M. Williams Papers, recently deposited in the Rosenberg Library.

Recent deaths of prominent people: Judge Felix J. McCord, at Longview, April 28, 1922; Henry J. Runge, at Galveston, May 5, 1922; Miss Sarah P. Campbell, a granddaughter of Samuel M. Williams, at Houston, June 3, 1922. Her mother, Caroline Williams, married Dr. B. Campbell of Galveston.

Mrs. J. W. McCarty, sister of W. S. Oldham whose death was noted in the October *QUARTERLY*, died at her home in Eagle Lake, June 10, 1922. Mrs. McCarty and Mr. Oldham were children of Williamson S. Oldham, senator from Texas in the Confederate Congress.

Recent deaths among the literary folk of Texas include James E. Sullivan, at Henrietta, Oklahoma, June 2, 1922; Mose C. Harris, at El Paso, June 2, 1922; and Frank S. Hastings, at Stamford, June 12, 1922; Leonidas B. Giles, at Laredo, June 12, 1922.